H. MORGAN GRIFFITH 9TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE SUBCOMMITTEES: OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS REPUBLICAN LEADER ENERGY HEALTH www.morgangriffith.house.gov



Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4069

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April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the expansion of a behavioral health facility in Bristol, Virginia in fiscal year 2023.

Sponsoring this project is nonprofit health system Ballad Health, headquartered at 303 Med Tech Pkwy, Johnson City, TN 37604. Funds would be utilized at Ballad's Ridgeview Pavilion Behavioral Health Hospital, located at 103 North St, Bristol, VA 24201.

Funding would be used to convert existing space — one small wing and several patient rooms — into a secure, high-risk behavioral health unit known as a "high acuity unit." It is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars because the need for high acuity patient services in rural Southwest Virginia far exceeds availability. These services are currently only available at State Mental Health Hospitals, which are unable to keep up with demand.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

H. Morgan Griffith Member of Congress